MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: May I know whether the Government are in a position to increase the quantity?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes, Sir. The matter will be considered.

Supply of ration to hotels.

165. *MR. P. KOCHUKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether hotels in the towns are given full ration;

(*b*) if there has been a reduction, by what percentage; and

(*c*) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties felt by people, who have to go to towns on business and who will have to stay there temporarily, in the matter of getting meals in hotels?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The units allotted have been reduced by 50 per cent with effect from May 1946.

(*c*) Yes.

Ration Merchants.

166. *MR. P. S. MOHAMED: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received representations from merchants about the hardships caused to them on account of the indiscriminate enforcement of direction that any punishment of the licensees will disqualify them from carrying on ration trade on food-grains?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes. The attention of the member is invited to the Press Note dated 27th June 1946.

Retail foodgrains dealers in Parur taluk.

167. *MR E. K. MADHAVAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of retail dealers in food grains in Parur taluk at present;

(*b*) how many of them are old licensees;

(*c*) how many new licenses were given during Edavom and Mithunam 1121; and

(*d*) how many of the new licensees are now actually dealing in food grains?

MR. K. R NARAYANA AIYAR: (*a*) 154.

(*b*) 147.

(*c*) 11.

(*d*) 7.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: In answer to part (c) the Director has stated "eleven" as the number of new licenses given during Idavom and Mithunam 1121. But in answer to part (d) it is stated that only seven are functioning. May I know the reason why the other four are not functioning?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: I do not know the reason. I myself have to call for the information. I must get the information from the Tahsildar.

MR. D. THOMAS (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavancode*): In answer to (c) it is stated that eleven licensees are working and out of these eleven, only seven are functioning and four of them are not functioning. Are those non-functioning merchants still holding their licences?

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MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : I do not know Sir. I must call for facts from the Tahsildar.

Levy of weighing charges of food grains.

168. *MR E. K. MADHAVAN : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether weighing charges are levied for bags of food grains supplied by the Depot Officer to the stockists in the same locality; and

(*b*) if so, the amount collected so far by way of weighing charges?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise in view of the answer to (a)

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN : The Director of Food Supplies has stated in answer to this question that no charge has been levied for this purpose. But as a matter of fact, the charge has been levied by the Depot Officer. May I know whether the Director of Food Supplies has enquired into the matter?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : That is one of the complaints against the Depot Officer. That is also under investigation by the District Magistrate.

Food Control.

169. * MR. P. S. MOHAMED : Will the Government be pleased to state the circumstances and the causes that made them continue the control and the business of food grains as before?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Because the food situation did not improve.

Commandeered valloms.

170. *MR. P. S MOHAMED : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing :

(*a*) the number of valloms that are under commandeering at present;

(*b*) the number of valloms which were kept in the State without renewing registration; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the authorities refuse annual re-registration on the ground that the boat owners did not clear up the dues to Government under shortage of food grains in transport?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : (*a*) None till 17-7-1946/1-12-1121 on which date commandeering has been started again on limited scale and as a temporary measure.

(*b*) There is no information about valloms having been kept without renewal of registration.

(*c*) No such report has been received.

MR. P. S. MOHAMED : കഴിഞ്ഞ പ്രാവശ്യം വള്ളങ്ങൾ കമാൻഡിയർ ചെയ്തപ്പോൾ വള്ളം ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർക്ക് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള പ്രയാസം ഈ പ്രാവശ്യം എങ്കിലും ഉണ്ടാകാതെ കഴിക്കുമോ ?

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